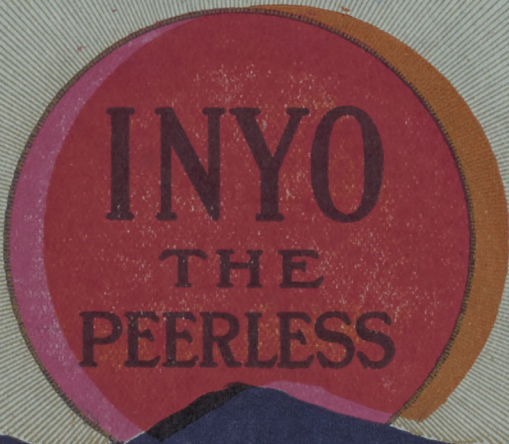


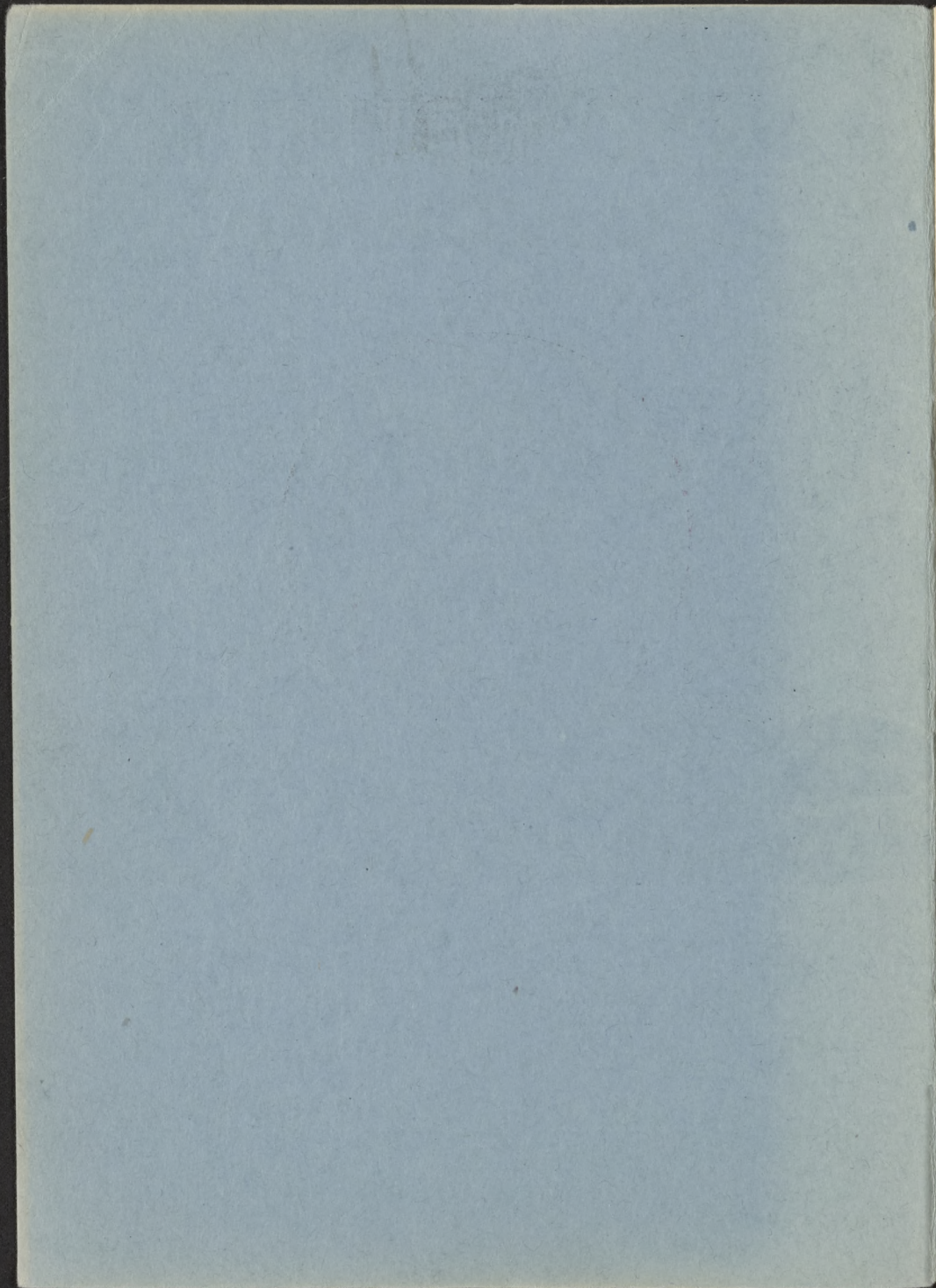
INYO COUNTY CALIFORNIA

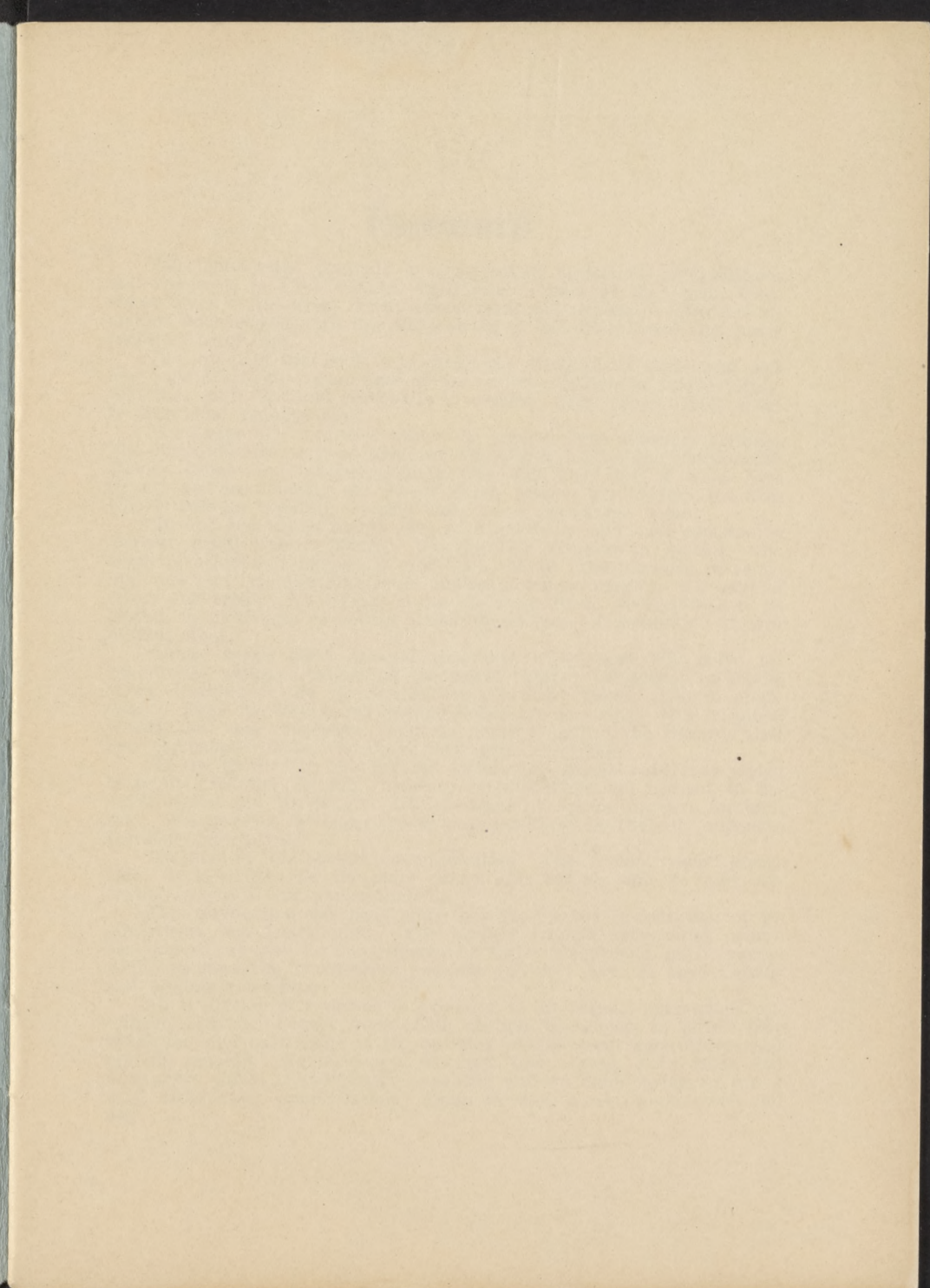
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INYO
THE
PEERLESS

ENDOWED WITH A GREATER
VARIETY OF NATURAL RESOURCES
THAN ANY OTHER COUNTY.





Foreword

This publication presents a conservative statement of conditions and resources in Inyo County, California, a part of the Great West, where much of the great latent agricultural and mineral wealth has remained undeveloped until this time, owing to lack of railroad and power facilities heretofore.

The intent of this book is to direct the attention of those who seek new locations to the advantages of the various districts of this territory, that they may visit and personally investigate those places which satisfy individual requirements.

Townships and localities cannot be treated with adequate fullness. The outlook is over a great area, and the aim is to give the conservative farmer, miner and business man a true and just idea of what Inyo County and particularly the Owens Valley section has to offer the man who is turning hopefully to this State for a permanent home.

"In our mountains beauty vies with sublimity and both combine in charms unsurpassed. 'There,' descriptively remarks a visitor, 'the music of a hundred streams is ever upon the air; the harmony of swaying trees and brimming life is an endless accompaniment to the song of rivers and brooks; all telling of the life to be lived, of happiness to be gained, in the bosom of nature, under the shadow of mountains of ever melting snow.'

"Stony steeps mask mineral treasures, where men will delve for generations without exhausting the secret vaults. Thousands of fertile acres, drinking of the streams fed by perpetual snows, yield in abundance. Even the forbidding desert reaches are so strewn with uncoined wealth that their hardships count as nothing against the rewards that may compensate those who brave their grim desolation.

"If the dweller in less favored parts shall herein read that which taxes his credulity, let him therefore not disbelieve, but instead, in the spirit of full and fair inquiry, test the issue by coming to learn for himself. Whatever is, is; superlatives may sometimes be the only adequate truthful description."

The tone of this booklet is conservative. This is not "boom" literature. It is written for the plain citizen and, for his sake, is made extremely practical and understandable.

This publication has been made possible by the co-operation of its advertisers and contributors. The business repute they enjoy where best known, as well as the evidence of their enterprising spirit, merits your consideration in whatever business you may have in Inyo County and adjoining territory.

An invitation of welcome is extended to all honest, industrious, intelligent citizens of other parts of the country who desire to better their conditions and participate in the building of this great agricultural and mineral domain. We need you, we need your energy, your ideas and enterprise, which if judiciously expended will no doubt bring to you a most satisfactory compensation. Again we say to you, come, come and see.



Inyo County, California

Inyo County, bounded on the east by the Nevada line, on the west by the crest of the Sierra Nevada mountains, has for its northern neighbor Mono County and for its southern San Bernardino and Kern. Its latitude corresponds with that of Virginia and Kentucky. Its 10,224 square miles makes it the second largest subdivision of California. It is larger than any of the New England States except Maine, larger than New Jersey, Maryland or Delaware.

No other county in the United States presents so varied a surface, for it contains the highest peak, Mt. Whitney, and the lowest depression, Death Valley. A line drawn down the map from the northeastern corner to the southwestern, divides it into two unequal triangles. Within the western, and by far the smaller, lies Owens Valley and its bordering mountains. The eastern triangle is largely mountainous, ribbed from east to west by range after range, inclosing arid valleys, and offering possibilities of the development of vast mineral resources.

Within this imperial domain is found a greater variety of native resources than in any other county of the State—or possibly of the nation. To set them forth in full detail would take more space than the limited pages of this publication contain; but in its articles some intimation of their variety and possibilities will be given.

OWENS VALLEY

The valley extends nearly the entire length of the county. There is a gradual slope from north to south, the altitude at Round Valley being about 4,114, at Big Pine 4,002, at Independence 3,924, at Lone Pine 3,726, at the normal level of Owens lake 3,568. The length is approximately 100 miles, with an arm extending into Mono county, along the base of the White mountains. Measuring across Bishop and Round Valley, it is probably 18 miles between foot hills; the mountains close in further south, and near Fish Springs a Sierra spur almost separates the valley in two parts. South of there there is a widening, and the mountains are eight to ten miles apart.

Owens Valley, including its subdivisions, Pleasant and Round Valleys, stands for all that Inyo County means to the agricultural world. It is one vast sweep of tillable land, only about one-fourth of it being yet under cultivation, the remainder holding forth immense opportunities to homeseeker and farmers great and small. The chief cause of this percentage of settlement has been the past inadequate transportation facilities. Prior to the year 1910 the only railroad operating in the county was the narrow-gauge line running from Mina, Nevada, down to Keeler, but now the Southern Pacific has constructed and is operating a broad gauge line between Mojave and Owenyo, connecting Inyo county with Los Angeles and San Francisco, giving its farmers the shortest route to Los Angeles and other markets.

Round Valley and Pleasant Valley, in the extreme northwestern corner, are but slightly more elevated parts of Owens Valley; in them are many thriving farms, with room for many more.

SOIL AND IRRIGATION

In speaking of Inyo from an agricultural standpoint, only Owens Valley is included. Its several hundred thousand acres of land is all fertile, and it is blessed with a water supply more generous than is given to any other equal area in California.

This valley, which extends along the eastern base of the Sierra Nevada mountains for one hundred and twenty-five miles, is indeed a paradox—a land of little rain and great fertility. Although its average annual rainfall is little over five inches, most of its farms have abundance of water for all requirements—one of the many reasons why, in the last few years, it has sprung into prominence as an agricultural district of both great promise and fulfillment. This physical inconsistency is easily explained, however: the ranges between which the valley lies are of such height that the clouds break up before reaching the valley, depositing upon the ridges and in the canyons an inexhaustable supply of snow, which melting, feeds the river and its tributaries the year round. Because of this the Inyo farmers' crops never fail.

Owens river rises in southern Mono county. On its winding course through the lowest part of the valley to the lake it receives the drainage of the lands, and such creek discharge as may not be utilized by irrigation from the creeks crossing the valley from the Sierras. The usual flow is 150,000 to 200,000 acre feet at a gauging station above the canals, and also above the valley streams, which but for their use in irrigation would add probably two-thirds as much more to its volume.

Government stream measurements show that Bishop creek, with about 50,000 acre feet as its average annual discharge, is considerably the largest of the tributaries in the county, followed in order by Big Pine, Rock and Pine creeks. Sixteen other and smaller streams are included in the government tabulation for this watershed, this not including two which empty directly into Owens lake. These are not all the water sources. Black Rock springs pour forth an unvarying flow of about 1000 inches. Fish springs add to the supply. Artesian wells have been successfully drilled at different points of the valley, the first such flow being on the public school grounds at Bishop. More recently the Los Angeles aqueduct management has put down a number of wells north and east of Independence, getting strong flows in several cases. Where a flow is not obtained there is usually developed enough for successful irrigation by pumping. This method has not heretofore been necessary, but in time will without doubt serve to bring many acres of fine foothill land into use. The settlement of Chalfant, north of Laws, is based upon this exception, and the work already done points to a complete fulfillment of such hopes.

Barring such unusual conditions as mountain cloud-bursts and other accidental happenings, the water is as clear as crystal. Owens river alone is the exception, as it unfailingly carries a strong percentage of silt and such natural accumulations as come from a large water shed and long flow through lowlands. Its water is used for irrigating thousands of acres of land, but not for domestic use if avoidable.

The flow into the valley is sufficient for the reclamation of the entire acreage. A feature of reclamation was to have been drainage of such lands as are naturally wet or have become so by seepage or other reasons. Individuals have in some instances carried out this idea, on a smaller scale necessarily, thereby bringing into use tracts heretofore waste.

In a valley where the annual rainfall averages not over five inches,

irrigation is the chief dependence. With such unfailing stream supply there are no crop failures on this account. Many of the creeks never add a drop of water directly to the river to which they start, their flow being used by the farms on the way. A score of canals, some of them carrying up to 500 inches, distribute the larger part of the flow, most of these being fed by the river. With very few exceptions, these canals, representing an outlay of over a million dollars, represent the energy of the people. The builders were equipped with cash in very few cases; lacking this, "days work" took its place, and members of the co-operative associations paid their assessments by their own labor. The upper valley's network of irrigating canals is a monument to the industry of the settlers.

Lands have been rising in value here as elsewhere in the last few years. Somewhere between \$25 and \$250 an acre, the purchaser can select according to the situation and improvement of the property desired. Whatever the price paid—and it will not be as high as that of less remunerative property in more crowded localities, it will be a bargain for the person who means business and is willing to work.

The rule here is that land sales include water rights; in many cases from natural streams where no canal outlay is required, in others from canals whose annual upkeep is low enough to make the water expense comparatively negligible.

A fertile soil drinks of the water and its response is prompt and profitable. The higher ground is sandy; the lower commonly loam, with some alkali, but very rarely enough to prevent profitable use of the land.

There is little encouragement to offer the seeker for vacant government land. The more satisfactory plan, perhaps, for the man of means either small or large, is to buy a tract on which patent has already been issued.

Here, as elsewhere, the soil will return reward in proportion to the energy put upon it. It is a country for the poor man as well as for the rich one, as the experience of citizens who are now in independent circumstances proves.



CLIMATE

"Delightful" is the word most accurately descriptive of Owens Valley's climatic conditions. A fifteen year record at Bishop up to 1909 shows 105 as the extreme maximum reached, five below as the extreme minimum—a limit passed, however, in the phenomenal winter of 1915. In probably half our summers the hottest day does not pass the hundred mark, and sometimes does not reach it.

The usual extreme minimum is several degrees above zero. A comparison of the summer heat here with that of southern California or the San Joaquin or Sacramento valleys invariably in our favor. Our nights are cool and pleasant, even in the hottest weather of the year. Heat prostration under any reasonable circumstances is unknown. The dryness of the air makes 100 degrees less oppressive here than 90 in humid regions. Spring frosts may occur, and in some years do harm; growers here have not employed such precautions as are employed in other sections to insure a crop.

The average number of days during which the sun shown all or part of the time, shown by the fifteen-year record mentioned, varied from 243 to 292 for the year.

AGRICULTURE AND HORTICULTURE

In speaking of the agricultural aspects of Inyo County, it might be said that practically all of its fertile land is contained in Owens Valley. Here all kinds of hay, grain, fruit and vegetables thrive, and bear large and profitable crops; in fact anything that grows and produces well in a temperate zone receives encouragement from this well-irrigated and arable land.

Owens Valley alfalfa has never been equaled by any with which it has come in competition. In many cases it serves as hay and grain together, for work stock often keep in good condition with no other ration. Other grasses of high quality are also grown.

The readiness of the soil to yield and the possibilities of profits from intelligent specialization are illustrated by one farm of ninety-eight acres of which the season's yield was 713 tons of choice hay, which sold for \$7,480 cash. Three to four cuttings are harvested yearly, producing from six to eight tons to the acre. Potatoes form one of the already arrived sources of profits. Ten tons to the acre is too often reported to be considered a record, while the size and quality of the tubers excite the admiration of experts. Onions are another staple that will form one of our future export items. Celery raised here has an unusual crispness and flavor. The bean is another of our profitable crops.

Sugar-beet growing has not yet passed much beyond the experimental stage because of the absence of a factory for handling the output. Assayed samples show percentage running as high as twenty-four. Much land could be secured for that crop. Many other productions such as melons, canteloupes, tomatoes, sweet-potatoes, cabbage, cauliflower, carrots and turnips might be mentioned with equal favor.

Among the grains, all of which are grown in greater or less amount, wheat and corn frequently report phenomenal yields. An average of a ton of wheat to the acre is not unusual. Corn yields one to two tons.

Owens Valley has the elevation and climatic conditions which are the most important factors in the development of first class deciduous

fruit. That this is true is borne out by the fact that fruit of superior

Fruit buyers of long experience are strong in their praise of Inyo County apples and pears and claim the fine color, flavor and excellent keeping qualities are unsurpassed.

The elevation, ranging from 3700 to 4500 feet, coupled with our sunny summers and moderately cold winters are the elements which produce the fruit that makes it possible to answer in the affirmative the three essential questions to the raising of commercial fruit: Has it good color? Will the fruit keep? Will it stand shipping?

In the past four years many hundred acres have been planted to all kinds of deciduous fruit. The subdivision of large tracts has brought many enterprising ranchers into the valley. In a few years we will have, in commercial quantities, the best fruit that can be raised anywhere.

The varieties of apples that thrive best here are the Winesap, Pearmain, Rambo, Baldwin, Northern Spy, Spitzenburg and others. Figs, almonds and walnuts are among our productions; apricots, peaches, pears and all kinds of berries produce abundantly.

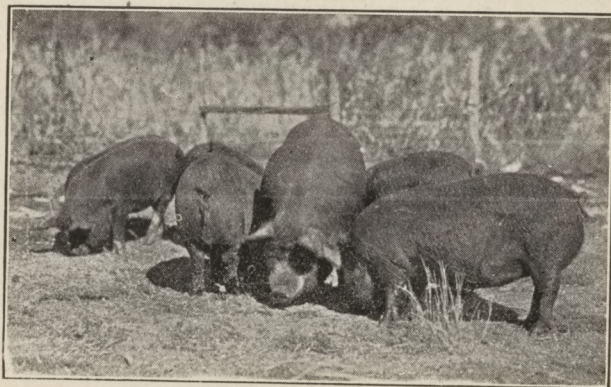
Grapes of the finest quality are grown from one end of the valley to the other. Manzanar and Lone Pine are both notable in this respect, but by no means alone.



STOCK GROWING

Stock-raising is one of Owens Valley's most promising industries. The fine quality of alfalfa and other grasses grown here, favorable climate, with mountain range for summer use, together with altitude, pure water and air, guarantee to the stock-raiser that perfection only obtained under most favorable conditions and warrant the high prices that are obtained for Owens Valley grown cattle, horses and other stock. Sheep raising is one of our important industries. Thousands of head of sheep feed annually upon Inyo ranges. The comparatively mild winters, with an abundance of choice feed, insures the owner a handsome profit from wool and mutton. Little or no disease exists among sheep in this locality.

Hogs do well here, and with the city of Los Angeles as a market, the problem of sale does not figure. The percentage of increase is very large, with a very small loss rate; such destroying epidemics as hog-cholera are entirely unknown here.



DAIRYING

Dairying in Owens Valley has proved a paying industry. The dry climate, pure water and fine feed offer opportunities to the dairyman which few communities can boast. Several creameries are located in different parts of the valley to which farmers either haul the milk or cream after extracting at the home dairy. Before many years Owens Valley will be one of the banner dairying valleys of this State, and those who take advantage of the situation will reap big profits. The dairies here produce, and produce big, and there is an ever ready market for the product.

Several farmers here have recently installed silos, which are proving successful in the conservation of fodder, and consequently are new sources of profit.

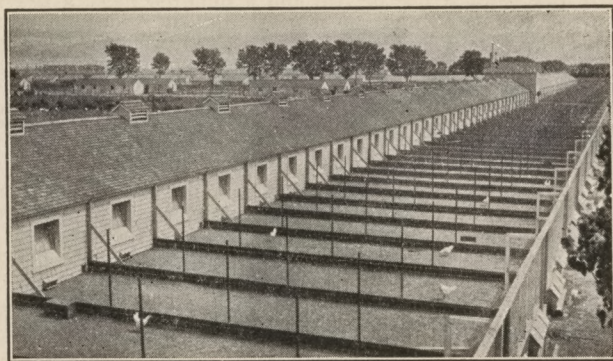
POULTRY AND BEES

Poultry-raising is destined to hold a large place in the future export business of this valley. Up to the time of larger local enterprises it was reckoned that the annual income to the valley from poultry shipments to Nevada points and coast cities amounted to \$50,000.

The market cannot be overstocked. Inyo now has one of the largest enterprises in this line in the United States. The conditions for success are most favorable, the opportunities are here to be grasped.

The bee business presents one of the most attractive industries of Owens Valley, either as a business of its own or as a side-issue on a small farm. The conditions existing here makes the latter especially desirable—unlike the conditions existing in southern California, where the bees gather the honey from wild flowers and are consequently dependent on the rainfall to insure a honey flow, and where the apiculturist has to take his bees to the mountains to secure sufficient range and be isolated from his fellow man. He can keep his bees on his own place where they can gather the honey from alfalfa, sweet clover and other honey producing plants. While the yield in some years is heavier than others, yet there is no such thing as an entire failure of a honey crop, as is the case in many honey producing sections. The quality is also unexcelled, and always brings the highest market price in the large commercial centers of the United States and Canada. While the industry is only partially developed, yet the crop for the year 1914 brought for the growers in the Owens Valley alone about \$36,000 cash at the railroad station. Most of this amount is clear money, as the farmer can grow his other crops at the same time. Bees are one of the best side lines in the valley.

Our honey admits no superior, nor has it found its equal. Honey from apiaries near Bishop took first prize at the Midwinter Fair in San Francisco and also at the Lewis and Clark Exposition in Portland. A stand of bees seldom brings less than five dollars income and some apiaries have averaged even a higher profit.



HOME MAKING

(As an Owens Valley farmer sees it.)

Most of us want three things—a home, a living income and independence, that is, freedom to order our own life and work. For this we are willing to toil late and early. For many of us the city offers a scant income without freedom; for many more the crowded conditions of the east make land expensive and the climate conditions make production uncertain, or else the winter consumes what the summer grows.

The weather was planned before there were any farmers, and the clouds do not consult his feelings or his interests. If he controls moisture for his crops he sends it where he wants it, and keeps it back where he does not want it. And irrigation has made the farmers' work scientific in that it insures against crop failures, insures full crops, and insures better crops. So clear is this that we have as a result—coming slowly as all good comes—a new agriculture. We have intensive culture. Fewer acres and better farming is now the watchword. "Production," the Secretary of Agriculture says, "and not acreage is the measure of profit, and moisture at the right time, and the right temperature all the time, is the measure of production." Here we have the soil, the moisture and a good growing climate, and if the harvest is not abundant, the farmer himself is at fault. Many a farmer fails because buffeted and defeated by climate conditions over which he has no control. Here, with water to turn on at will and a fertile soil, the farmer who fails to produce the best of alfalfa and the most of it; to have plenty of pasture and a store of root crops; shelter for his dairy cows from the worst weather, and the healthiest of stock, has only himself to blame. The natural conditions make this one of the best dairy regions in the world.

Dairying: The average settler, not well provided with ready coin, is nervous about "getting started in a new country." The dairy offers an easy beginning. A small meadow and a pasture field are quickly provided, then a few cows, a hog or two and a hundred hens, a few stands of bees and a berry patch and the man of limited resources has begun to live off his own soil. The creamery solves the problem of an income. A good co-operative creamery is located at Bishop and the cream is gathered daily by the management. As soon as monthly receipts of coin are established, the way is clear, and three or four cows will start a family off comfortably with the help of the fowls. Dairy products are much more valuable than any crop except corn, and are equal to one-third of the value of all cereals, and the live stock sold from farms and slaughtered on them, is worth nearly twice as much as the cotton crop.

Stock-raising: "One of the best stock countries I have ever been in," said an experienced stockman, and the fine live stock, the character of the seasons and the forage grasses which grow here to perfection, bear out the statement. The alfalfa is said to be sweeter and richer in nutrition than in some other districts. Wild rye, white clover, wild blue grass, and several of the bunch grasses grow here, and are the source of luxuriant pasturage of high nutritive value. It is said that grass only attains this peculiar nutritive quality when grown 3,000 feet or more above the level of the sea, even in a dry state.

In this region of little rainfall and much sunshine, the pasturage is still nutritious, being cured naturally as it matures. As sunshine is an

important factor in keeping up a good healthy herd, as well as being helpful in keeping a dairy ranch in a clean, sanitary condition, it must be conceded that the 300 days of sunshine with which Inyo County is usually favored are quite an item to the dairyman. To the small farmer who is contented with twenty, forty or sixty acres, there is nothing that he can undertake that will return him a larger profit on his investment and better pay for his labor than the dairy industry. If he will be content to keep just as many cows as he is able to milk and care for himself, he places himself in an independent position, as well as retaining for himself all the profit there is in the business. And it is not a question of how many cows you keep, but how good each cow is. Be sure that each cow is earning a profit over all cost of feed and care; if not see that she goes to the slaughter pen and fill her place with one that will pay for her board and keep and leave a good profit at the end of the year in her favor. There are no more prosperous communities on the Pacific slope than where hogs, cattle, the dairy and alfalfa are made the stand-by. Poultry goes with the dairy, its waste products constituting valuable egg forming material, while alfalfa for green feed keeps up the music of the poultry yard.

FISHING AND HUNTING

Owens Valley and the neighboring mountains are a veritable paradise for the fisherman and the hunter. The streams and lakes are well stocked with the finest varieties of trout. In the streams and lakes west of Lone Pine the rare golden trout disports himself, ready for the angler who knows where to find him.

In the many mountain streams and lakes west of Lone Pine, Manzanar, Independence, Big Pine and Bishop fish of varieties such as Rainbow, Loch Leven, Eastern Brook and cutthroat are plentiful. In the lower streams black bass have made a good start.

Exceptional natural advantages have led the State Fish and Game Commission to establish a trout hatchery near Independence. It is planned to be, when completed, the largest hatchery in the world.

The legitimate hunter for deer can bring back from his autumn expedition to the hills, as many pairs of antlers as the law will permit.

Feathered game is abundant. All varieties of wild duck peculiar to the Pacific coast are found here, and all but the canvasback in large numbers. Mountain quail and valley quail are plentiful. Doves are numerous in summer time. Mongolian pheasants were brought in and released a few years ago, and have become plentiful; they can be seen in all parts of the valley.

Hungarian partridges are the most recent introductions. Grouse and sagehens are found in suitable mountain haunts.

The lowly cottontail is found wherever conditions are to his liking. If you enjoy hunting or fishing, come to Owens Valley and you will never regret the trip.

One of the more notable places for summer outing in this section, where you may enjoy the finest scenery, hunting, fishing and other outdoor recreation, is Andrews Camp, situated west of Bishop in the High Sierras. This camp receives not only the local patronage of Inyo County people, but is the favorite summer resort of many in all parts of the country.

INYO'S VARIED MINERAL DEPOSITS

Authorities credit Inyo with possessing a greater variety of mineral resources than any other county in California. More than 120 different substances and forms are enumerated in a compiled list which includes all the common metals and minerals and many more that are met with in few other mineral fields. To it may be added natural gas, found near Owens lake; mineral springs, in several places, first among which are those of noted curative qualities, at Coso; gem stones, and others. A review in detail might suffice for only the day or even the hour of writing; for since the compilation of the list referred to discoveries of tungsten, formerly not known as an Inyo possession, have been made; talc, not formerly considered, has taken a place as a substance of commercial value; new ledges have been found, new camps begun.

Inyo has been or is now first among California counties in production of silver, lead, zinc, borax, soda, marble. The waters of Owens lake, highly mineralized, are the foremost American source of soda ash and similar substances. Saline Valley's square miles of pure salt are beginning to be drawn on for the markets.

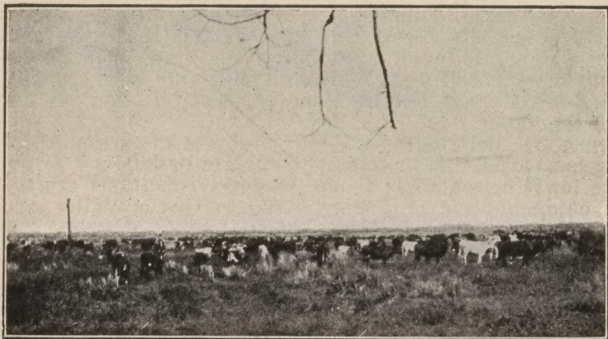
From the county's north line to its southern, from Sierra summits to the State line easterly, are mineral deposits and mining camps. Improved processes of working and, no less important, improved transportation facilities will in all the years ahead continue to add to the world's wealth from not only hundreds of deposits already known but from the yet greater number to be opened by further exploration.

POWER IN PLENTY

The streams entering Owens Valley are estimated to be capable of developing 100,000 horsepower.

Any enterprise for which electric power is wanted should have no hesitation on that score, in accepting an Owens Valley location.

The Southern Sierras Power Company, one of Inyo's developed assets, is now branching out and reaching to many points of the country where cheap power means permanent development. Power for pumping, mining, and other industries for Owens Valley will be available at a price which will stimulate industrial growth.



SCHOOLS AND SOCIAL FEATURES

In the matter of education and social betterment Inyo county has not been a laggard. From the primary grades to readiness for entrance into the State university, our schools offer every requisite. Over a score of elementary schools throughout the county prepare for entrance to the high schools.

The greater population in the vicinity of Bishop accounts for over half of the valley teachers being employed in the neighborhood. In Bishop the grammar grades are housed in a reinforced concrete structure, erected in 1915, as the result of a \$30,000 bond issue; a modern building in every respect. A separate building on the ground is used for manual training. Six teachers are here employed. West Bishop has also built for permanency, a \$15,000 concrete housing the juvenile charges of its two teachers. Sunland, also employing two teachers, has a concrete building. Big Pine, with three teachers, Lone Pine, with two, and other districts have each creditable school buildings.

Bishop high school is maintained by a union of the districts surrounding the town. Eight teachers and an enrollment of about 150 are engaged in its work. It is accredited, and ranks well among the schools of its size in the State. Three regular courses of study, commercial branches, and industrial training in the departments of domestic science, dairying, agriculture and manual training are open to students. It has a well equipped laboratory, and a library of 1000 volumes. Ample surrounding grounds form part of the equipment, and give opportunity for athletics, for which provision has been made in dressing rooms and shower baths for both boys and girls. The year 1915 witnessed the school's advent into football competition, and it closed the year victorious over all comers and claiming the championship of eastern California and southern Nevada.

Big Pine high school, several years established, takes good care of the needs of pupils who complete the work of the lower grades in Big Pine and Fish Springs districts, and shows a successful history. The county will soon have a third high school, the districts of the southern part of the county having this year established one at Lone Pine.

Inyo county is one of the progressive ones which have established a county library system. This is well patronized, in all the half dozen or more neighborhoods where branches have been opened.

Church work and fraternal institutions offer their welcome to all comers, and in these important respects our communities are not behind the advancement in other progressive sections.

HIGHWAYS

Owens Valley is on the route of the most attractive of all transcontinental automobile highways, the Midland Trail. The best natural route across Nevada comes into this valley over Westgard Pass, in the White mountains, a pass so rarely snow-blocked as to justify the assertion that it is always open. The traveler, reaching that summit, faces the grand panorama of the snow-crowned Sierras, looming two miles higher than the green and gold checkered spread of farms in the valley at their foot. A few miles of travel brings him to El Camino Sierra, now being made a part of the California State highway system. If bound southerly, at any time of the year, his way is open and thoroughfare good to Los Angeles, or to San Francisco or other western points.



Looking across Owens Valley from





from Red Hill, west of Bishop.



via the San Joaquin valley. Northerly, in the summer season, he can journey to Lake Tahoe and westward to the Sacramento Valley; or by the Tioga route, taken over by the Government in 1915, his way lies into famed Yosemite. By either Tahoe or Tioga, the trip is through scenery sublime and beautiful beyond the dreams of any one who has not viewed it before. The Tioga route is the shortest between New York or other cities of the northern States, and San Francisco, as well as incomparably the most beautiful of all that are open to the wayfarer.

SCENERY

The scenery in this vast imperial domain is well-nigh indescribable. Nature has endowed this favored land with beauties unspeakable.

THE HILLS

The hills for me! the beautiful hills
Where the joy of the sky brims over and spills!
And the air is kind and the clouds are friends!
And the far-off song of the sea ascends!

The hills for me! The wonderful hills,
Where the soul with wonder and rapture thrills,
And the wondering wind, as it sinks and swells,
Speaks with the wisdom of oracles!

I love the hills! On a hill's gray crown,
In fire the law of the Lord came down;
And the Savior taught and the prophet heard
On a hill of old—the holy word!

Give me the hills, the glorious hills,
Where the clamor dies and the tumult stills,
Where heaven seems near and the world far off,
And none there to revile or scoff.

Yes, I love the hills, and my love shall last
Till all the longings of life are past.
And when I have come to the verge of time,
I crave to be carried where now I climb.

Of yore I fancied the hills could hear
The echoes that fell from another sphere,
And it seemed so then—and it seems so still—
We are nearer to God on the top of a hill!

—Arthur Goodenough, in Springfield Republican.

CONCLUSION

If he who knows "Inyo," it matters not whether he has remained here on duty at his post, or has journeyed far into distant parts less favored by nature, if his prophetic vision has not been dimmed by adversities or other forces, he sees the beginning of a new era: "Inyo coming into her own." He sees coming to its grand old hills and sunlit

valleys a great wave of industrial development and prosperity, he reads the signs of the times, and, listening with an ear keen and alert, he hears the tramp of the oncoming multitude, and looking toward the eastern horizon he sees streams of mineral wealth rolling down the mountain sides enriching the many homes far below. Gazing westward his eye is greeted by scores of streams of sparkling water gushing and tumbling on their precipitous way to the verdant peaceful Owens Valley, dotted with thousands of happy homes, and where the apple is blushing red, where the peach and apricot vie with each other in beauty and perfection, where the pear tree proudly bears its luscious fruit, and the rich alfalfa and sweet clover bids welcome to the honey-bee. The lowly spud admits of no superior. Berries too are not outclassed. The stately corn its mission fills, as does the canteloupe and melon. The wheat, the oats and barley are fixtures with the farmer. The flocks and herds are here to stay. Surely this is a land of plenty.

Everybody wants to grow. Every man and every woman desires a bigger, richer, happier life. We are all keenly conscious almost every day that life is incomplete, that something is lacking to give us its full value. We chafe under the yoke of a narrow circle of activity and life in the hope that in some mysterious fashion to-morrow or the next day or the day after that we shall be liberated into a world of greater freedom and contentment, so we are never done reaching forward and trying to grow.

If we are impelled by some invisible force to hold aloft the light which we have, and proclaim that which we believe to be the truth, it is then our duty to society, to humanity, to proclaim that truth regardless of expectant result. Whether it be success or failure matters not; under the operation of "the law" which governs all things, success of the dollar brand is oftentimes of itself failure. If then we are instrumental in helping others to realize that bigger, richer, happier life and freedom, we will have in a great degree succeeded and the recompense in proportion to the effort put forth will follow, in some form.

In regard to this publication, we wish to say in conclusion: We believe that, incomplete as it is, we are discharging a duty, and rendering a service to, not only ourselves and the people of this community, but also those in distant parts of the country who are seeking new places and fields for operation and home making. With all the latent resources and possibilities of this section of the country and advantages to be grasped, it must be remembered that to succeed effort must be made, caution must be exercised by those who may come here for the purpose of establishing themselves in whatever business or occupation they wish to engage. This is not the place for the laggard or drone. They are not welcome here. This section has of course its limitations, yet within these limitations there are many opportunities for the honorable upright citizen who is seeking to better his condition, and to him we say, "Come, Come and See."

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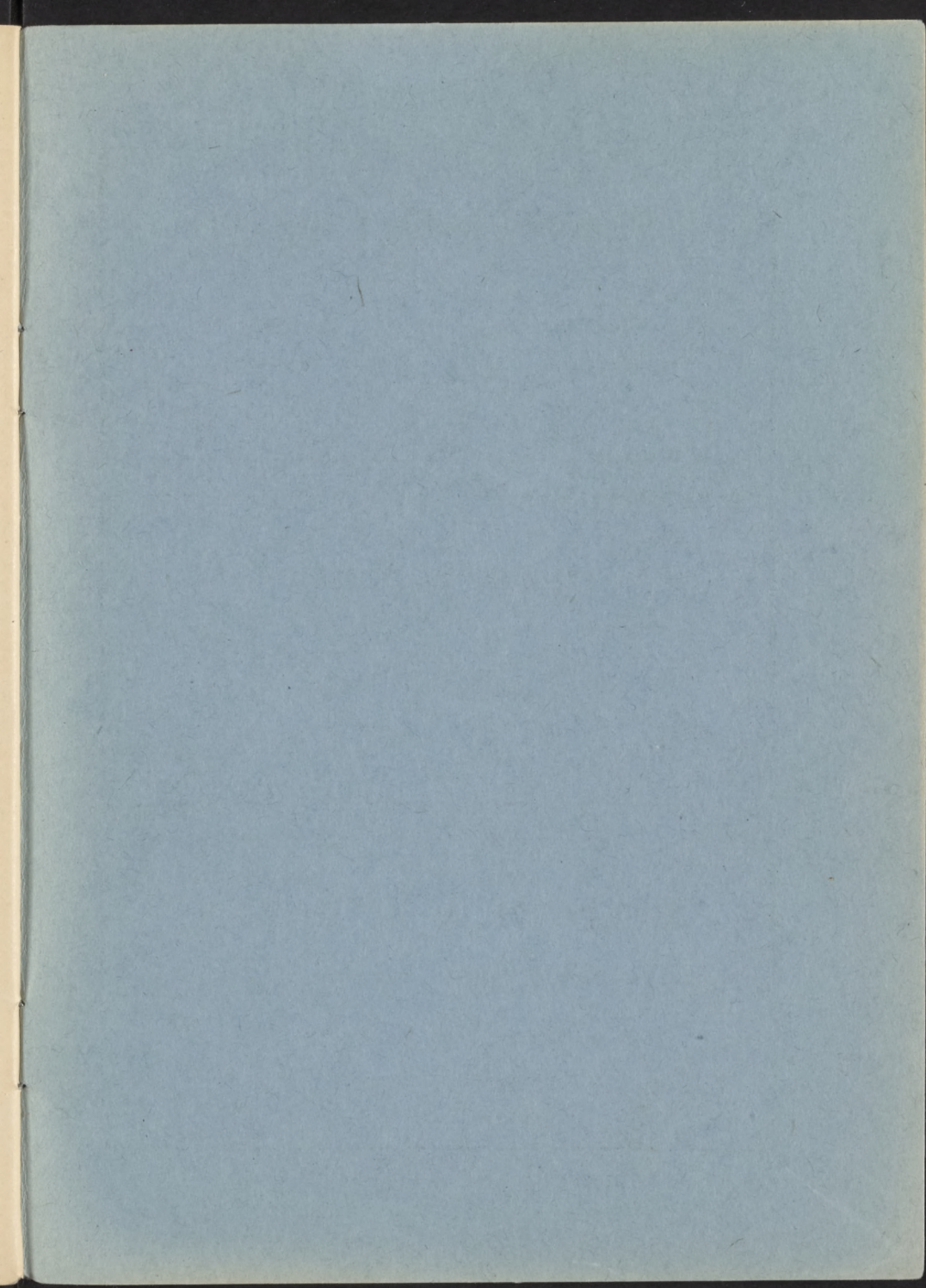
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COVER DESIGN BY W. G. SCOTT.

INYO REGISTER PRINTING OFFICE, BISHOP, CAL.